

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Unit in Korce

1. An unidentified unit has been stationed in Korce for many years and was still there as of 10 April 1955.¹ The troops of this unit are quartered in barracks located at the north end of Erseke. In the summer they are transferred to Vitakuq and Gjonomadh.

Military Maneuvers

2. In early October 1953 all the army units stationed in Korce were taken to the Morava area for maneuvers which lasted about seven days. The maneuvers consisted of defending a mountain line and counter-attacking with reserves. Major General Petrit Dume was present as an observer and congratulated the troops upon completion of the exercise. There were about 3,000 men present when Dume spoke. One Albanian airplane was used for reconnaissance. Troops were supplied with a small amount of blank ammunition during the maneuvers.

Training of Reserves

3. Local recruiting offices send individual reservists personal letters directing them to report for two months training at designated locations. The reservist is furnished with a uniform in good condition, and is paid 110 lek per month unless he is a government employee. Government employees receive their regular salary during their reserve training. After receiving weapons training most reservists are sent to

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work on military farms.

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approximately 250 reservists of different military classes were assigned to an infantry unit in Korce. They were formed into the 103 and 153 companies (provisional?) consisting of 120 men each, and trained in the use of Soviet rifles for a few days. Then the reservists were sent to a farm to work until released. When released, an entry is made in the reservist's Librezha Ushtarake and in their personal army record kept by the local recruiting office.

1. Comment: Possibly the 8th Infantry Division.

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